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The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

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KNOWLEDGE. VISION ACTION.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."—PROVERBS XXIX., 18.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

Elisha the prophet awoke one morning to find that the city in which he happened to be, was surrounded by a great army, and the young man who was with him, exclaimed, "What shall we do?" And Elisha replied, "Fear not, for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." Then the prophet prayed. "Lord, I pray Thee open his eyes that he may see." And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. Then the story goes on to tell how the enemy was delivered into the hands of the King of Israel. But when the Syrians were entirely at the mercy of the King of Israel, Elisha did not allow him to slay them, because he had not taken them captive with the sword and with the bow, but simply by the guidance of God. And after setting bread and water before them, he sent them back to their own country, and they were honourable and kept the treaty, "and came no more to trouble the land of Israel." Those ancients could set an example for modern times. God has infinite resources at His disposal, and in the struggle between light and darkness, between barbarism and civilisation, He will not permit the forces of evil to overwhelm the forces of light and truth and mercy.

* * *

The Synod Meetings have been very well attended, a fine spirit was shown in them, and the discussions were animated and interesting. A conversazione was held in the Central Hall on the evening of the 19th. A very nice tea was brought round to the company, and the programme of music and recitations was an excellent one. Inspiring addresses were made by the Moderator, Revs. E. Savell Hicks and R. W. Wilde.

* * *

The Synod lecture by Mr. H. J F. Orr comes at a time when attention is being given to the approaching 400th anniversary of Presbyterianism. In the North of Ireland, we are strongly linked up with Presbyterianism in Scotland—a son-in-law of John Knox was minister at Templepatrick. Visitors to Geneva who are interested in these beginnings find much prominence given to John Knox. There is a small church close to the Cathedral bearing a tablet stating that John Knox preached there. His statue stands side by side with that of Calvin, in front of the great Reformation Wall. Outside Geneva there is a black marble obelisk erected by Presbyterians in memory of Michael Servetus the Unitarian regretting the hardness of the times which caused Calvin to burn Servetus. Servetus however, would just as readily have burned John Calvin if he had had the power. Tolerance was unknown in that age, and Giordano Bruno had to escape over the city wall by night, from Calvin, who was on his track. The deliberate massacre of refugees by aeroplanes and tanks however is far worse than the cruelty of four centuries ago.

* * *

August, 1940, number published on Saturday, July 27th. Copy sent in before 20th July, will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

* * *

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

PRESBYTERIANISM IN IRELAND.

Lecture by Mr. H. J. F. Orr.

"The early days of Irish Presbyterianism" was the subject of a very interesting lecture delivered in the Central Hall, Rosemary St., Belfast, on Tuesday evening, June 18th, by Mr. H J. F. Orr, the Right Rev. J. Glynne Davies, Moderator of the Remonstrant Synod of Ulster, in the chair

Having traced his own lineage back to one of three brothers who were connected with the Presbyterianism of three hundred years, the ill-fated Wm. Orr being descended from another brother, Mr. Orr showed that the Presbyterianism of Ulster dated from the reign of James the First of England. Dublin had a Presbyterian congregation in Wood Street in 1587 and probably one earlier.

The first Provost of Trinity College was a Presbyterian Minister, Rev. Walter Travers, as also was the first Vice-Chancellor, Rev. Henry Alveay. It was owing to the success of the Academy in Great Ship Street that the Government of that day decided to revive an old project and established a Protestant University, which Trinity College became in 1594. The Great Ship Street Academy was conducted by Fillast n and Hamilton, ministers of the Woodvale Church and friends of John Knox, Melville and Buchanan.

The first Scottish minister to settle in Ulster was generally acknowledged to be Edward Briel of Br adisland, now Ballycarry, in 1613. But in the calendar of the patent rolls of James I., under date 1617, given among the list of settlers there was the name of William Moore, preacher at Newtown. Other names figuring in Ulster Presbyterianism were mentioned by the lecturer, including John Livingstone, Killinchy, and John Abernethy, A.M., the father of non-subscription. In closing he appealed to the younger Church members to take a greater interest in the history of their Church.

The lecturer, after a discussion of the subject, was warmly thanked.

——:o:——

R.S U. CONSTITUTION CODE.

Notice of Motion by the Rev. J. Barron.

Fathers and Brethren, I move —"That the Remonstrant Synod now in Session renews its adherence to the Constitution and Code of the Remonstrant Synod of Ulster."

This same notice of motion has been passed before, and I esteem it a great honour to have the privilege of submitting it on this occasion. I consider that it is well to remind ourselves occas onally of our Remonstrant Code and Constitution. It was a condition laid down in the Code of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church that the existing Constitution of this Synod should not be interfered with, and that this, and the Synod and Presbyteries and Congregations under its jurisdiction should remain as they are. Personally, I have very great reverence for the Remonstrant Synod. I learned about it in early years through a pamphlet entitled, "What is Presbyterianism?" by the Rev. Mr. McCaw, which was issued by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and I was very interested to know that in Ireland there was by right of continuity a Presbyterian Synod libe al enough to have within it Unitarian and Liberal Christian teaching. I always remembered it, and it was one of the things that attracted me over here, and those who have known of my work and ministry for the last thirty years are aware that I have worked for Non-Subscribing Presbyterianism, laying stress on the fact that the Constitution of the old General Synod of Ulster, which allowed the option of subscription or non-subscription on the part of candidates for ordination, has been retained as the Constitution of this present Synod, to which we have remained loyal, and that the break-away was not on our part but on the part of what has now become the General Assembly, which made Subscription compulsory. The unbroken line of Presbyterian Succession therefore remains with this Remonstrant Synod, and it is because of that and its honourable history and work, Mr. Moderator, that I move this resolution.

——:o:——

GENERAL SYNOD MEETING.

Re-Election of Moderator.

The General Synod of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland met in the First Presbyterian Church, Rosemary Street, on June 19.

Rt Rev. J. Glynne Davies, Moderator, after a hymn and the reading of a portion of Scripture, constituted the meeting with prayer.

The roll was then called by the clerk (Rev. J. D. Davies,) when a representative number answered to their names.

The Moderator, in his address, said the

year of his office had terminated, and he wanted to thank them for the great honour they had bestowed upon him a year ago. He had visited the churches and found evidence of real spiritual activity. The people were alive to the needs of the times, and especially having regard to the conditions that now prevailed.

Proceeding, the Moderator urged them to be true to their faith and to build well on its foundation, which meant the extension of the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. During the year members of their body had passed away, among them Mrs. Magill, and their sympathies went out to all bereaved. While they met there they remembered those young men who had gone forth to the war and had laid down their lives for King and country. They remembered with great gratitude the courage of those young lads, and they were proud of their memory. They remembered too, those of their church who had served in all his Majesty's services, not only as soldiers, sailors and airmen, but also as doctors and nurses.

The Moderator, in conclusion, asked them above all to keep the banner of their faith flying in the breeze. It was a precious heritage; it was a pearl of great price to them, not only let them hope in their own beloved land, but also throughout the world.

Rev. J. Glynne Davies was re-elected Moderator on the motion of Rev. J. McCleery, seconded by Rev. E. S. Hicks.

Thanking the Synod, the Moderator said he thanked the mover and seconder of the motion for the very kind words they had expressed towards him. He asked them to keep their faith strong, no matter what might betide them, as true disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rev. J. D. Davies was re-elected as clerk and the Moderator as treasurer.

LOYAL MESSAGE TO KING.

On the motion of Rev. John Hinkins, seconded by Rev. A. G. Peaston, the following telegram was sent to the King:

"To his gracious Majesty King George VI, Buckingham Palace, London—In the name of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland, the undersigned, on behalf of the General Synod now assembled, craves the honour of humbly expressing to your gracious Majesty, not alone the assurance of our faithful loyalty, but our sympathy in these times of unprecedented strain and danger through which the Empire is passing.—J. Glynne Davies, Moderator."

A discussion took place on a statement explanatory of the principle of Non-Subscription and the position of their Church, the preparation of which had been entrusted to Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew, assisted by Rev. J. McCleery.

It was remarked by Rev. W. G. Marsden that converts were not manufactured, but bred. Their church had no dogma. Any document they issued was not issued by the authority of a Non-Subscribing pope. It would be simply sent out by the permission of the Association of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator said they had their own body of beliefs, beliefs on which they were all united. They did not force their beliefs on others; but it would be well for their own people to be well versed in those doctrines.

It was decided to defer decision on the matter of publication until later in the meeting.

The Synod then proceeded to discuss references in the report of the General Purposes Committee to the change in the Code of Discipline.

The finding of the Committee was passed on the motion of the Rev. J. Barron, seconded by Rev. J. Hinkins. This means that the Synod would be empowered by the leave of a two-thirds majority of each congregation to make any change in the Code of Discipline the Synod might consider essential.

It was decided on the motion of Rev. C. J. Montgomery, seconded by Rev. E S. Hicks, to recommend to the General Purposes Committee to have the statement referred to presented in leaflet or in pamphlet form and distributed among the congregations for their use Those engaged on the work of preparing the statement were thanked.

COMING TERCENTENARY.

The tercentenary sub-committee recommended to Synod the re-affirmation of a resolution passed in 1845 in connection with the bicentenary celebration, namely, "that each minister in connection with the Synod be recommended to exchange pulpits with one of his brethern on the first Sunday in June, 1942, on which day collections to be taken up in all our congregations for the purpose of augmenting the capital fund of Sustentation;" also "that we attempt a production of pageant and enlist the co-operation of people with historic knowledge and dramatic ability."

On the motion of Mr. H. J. F. Orr, seconded by Rev. P. Godding, this report was adopted.

Reports from the Presbyteries and the

Sunday Schools, also the committees on Sustentation, Temperance and other subjects were next considered seriatim and adopted.

CONVERSAZIONE

A conversazione was held in the Central Hall in the evening when the Moderator again presided.

Mrs. Gardiner, of Holywood, spoke of the work of the Women's League, and addresses were given by the Rev. E. Savell Hicks, M.A., and the Rev. R. W. Wilde. M.A. B.Sc.

Tea was served, and a musical programme was contributed by Mrs. J. Hutchinson, Miss Eileen Ervine, and Mr. J. A. Laird, Miss Edna Kennedy playing the accompaniments

BODEL MACKENZIE BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Sixteenth Annual Report has been circulated by the Trustees, dated January, 1940. At the beginning of 1939 there was 30 beneficiaries. Five received £20, ten £15, fourteen £10. One died during the year. Collections were received from Belfast (First Church) £6 2s 5d, Holywood £10 16s 6d, Moneyrea 5 5s 0d. £20 to the Assistant Secretary. The Annual Statement of Account shows a balance in hand of £54 12s 10d, the Income being £415 12s 1d, and Expenditure £430 18s 3d The Report assures subscribers of the real benefits to those who receive its aid.

SUBSIDY FUND.

Contributions should be addressed to Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

RALOO—Flower Service, July 14th—Rev. John Barron.

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. J, Shaw Brown, 1 Greenmount Avenue, Manse Road, Bangor.

CORRECTION.—"SIR WILLIAM YOUNG." In the March number Mr. Orr is reported to have, in the course of his remarks at the Mountpottinger Sunday School party, told the scholars about *the late* Sir Wm. Young being a former scholar. This is an unfortunate mistake as, we are glad to say, Sir William is enjoying good health and doing essential War Work, having offered his services to the Government. We regret that this mistake has caused some embarrassment to his family.

OBITUARY.

Robert Christie, Crumlin.

Robert Christie, aged 63, died on Wednesday, April 24. He will be missed not only by members of the Crumlin congregation, but by many others in the town. He was not one who enjoyed success in the usual meaning of that word. He did, however, endear himself to everyone who knew him. His last employer spoke of him as being one of the most reliable of men. His long suffering elicited expressions of sympathy from many unexpected quarters and many find consilation in the conviction that he now rests in peace. The body was interred at Crumlin, on April 27, the Rev. John Hinkins officiating at the house and graveside.

Mrs. Class, Banbridge.

Our congregation lost a gracious personality and highly esteemed member, when Mrs. Glass passed away in her eighty-fifth year. She attended our regular committee meeting within two months of her death. Her valued advice here was often sought and acted upon. She had real business acumen.

But she had other splendid qualities which endeared her to us all. She was a devout member of our faith, and a very regular attender at the services. Materially she assisted by generous contributions to all the Church funds. And in quiet ways she had real practical sympathy. Blessed with an active, cultured mind, a keen sense of humour and an ever youthful spirit, she was an example of how to grow old gracefully. She had a host of friends beyond our denomination. A full column of tribute was paid to her memory in our local Press.

It seems too inadequate to add simply that we shall miss her from our midst, for the loss is difficult to realise, and we feel that no one can take her place.

She used well her talents and her reward will surely be of a "faithful servant."

Half-yearly subscriptions for magazine are now due.

FROM THE MODERATOR.

Sunday, 9th June, marked the beginning of the great National Savings Week held throughout the entire Kingdom.

The War in which, with her gallant Allies, our country is now engaged may justly be called a crusade, a crusade against the wanton destruction of all that civilised people hold dear. The ruthless oppression of the Church, the subservience of all religious rights to the State, and the horrors of the notorious concentration camps are only a few of the evils which the peoples of many of the smaller neighbour States of Nazi Germany have been called upon to endure, and which defeat would inevitably bring to our own beloved land. History has recorded battles and wars since the beginning of time, but these, great though they may have appeared at the time, were of small relative account when we consider the issues involved in the present conflict.

The struggle in which we are engaged is one in which every citizen of the Empire is required to help to the utmost limit of his or her individual capacity. The extensive scale upon which it is being conducted, coupled with its mechanised character, makes it the most costly war in the world's history. To meet the necessary expenditure, to help to keep the prices of essential commodities within reasonable limits, and above all to render the services which is their due to our heroic men who are fighting our battles on land, on sea, and in the air, it is the duty of every person to strengthen the economic and financial resources of the country by investing in State Guaranteed Securities.

The purchase of Ulster Savings Certificates and Defence Bonds at Banks or Post Offices, or alternatively, the investment of money in the Post Office or Trustee Savings Bank are ways through which money may be lent to the Government for that vigorous prosecution of the war without which victory cannot be achieved.

This will involve no sacrifice, for the security will be sound; and the money which you so invest will be, as it were, an assurance for that period of trade depression which so frequently follows upon great wars whilst industry is changing over from the production of armaments to the arts and pursuits of peace.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The Sunday School Conference was held at Larne on Saturday, June 1st. There was a very large gathering present—over 130—travelling down by train from Belfast. The Moderator the Right Rev. J. Glynne Davies presided and the conference was opened with prayer by the Rev. John Begg. The Moderator in his opening remarks stressed the need and the value of Sunday School work explaining that the need was more apparent now than ever.

Following the President's remarks the Rev.. John Hinkins, M.A., gave his adjudication of the essay competition. There were over 37 entries and the work of adjudicating was very difficult owing to the high standard of the essays. He particularly mentioned the essay which took first prize in the senior section.

The successful competitors were:—Senior section, over 14:—1, Geoffrey H. Wilde, 1st Church, Belfast; 2, Ruth Thompson, Newry, Robeila Moore, Ballyclare; 3, Peggy Martin, Comber. 11 to 13 grade—1, Mary Thompson, Newry; 2, Gordon Moore, Ballyclare, Samuel Baird, Killinchy; 3, Amelia McDowell, Newry, Betty McAlpine, Newry. 7 to 10 grade—Mina Bell, Larne, Norman A. Rea, Larne, Martha Mehaffey, Raloo.

The Convener, the Rev. W. Howard Payne, presented the certificates and prizes. A very interesting, instructive and thought provoking address on "Teaching Methods Old and New" was given by the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc. Many took part in the discussion which followed.

Mrs. Glynne Davies of Comber said she would like to convey to the Conference greetings from some members of the fighting forces, who would have been present were it not for their war duties. Mrs. Edgar Jackson of Mountpottinger proposed and this was carried unanimously that Mrs. Glynne

Davies should convey our love and gratitude and thanks to the young men who had written to her.

The congregation of Ballyclare invited the Conference to go to them in 1941. The Rev. John Hinkins, M.A., proposed and the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., seconded, that the invitation be accepted. This also was carried unanimously.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Moderator for presiding; to the Minister and committee of the Larne Church for their hospitality; to the ladies of the Church for providing tea; to the Rev. John Hinkins, M.A., for adjudicating in the essay competition, and to the Convener, the Rev. W. Howard Payne, was proposed by the Rev. John McCleery, B.A., S.T.M., and the Rev. A. G. Peaston seconded, and the vote was carried unanimously.

The weather was simply delightful and the conference was voted a great success.

THE MODEL PARLIAMENT.

Members of York Street Church and of First Church met together and had a most enjoyable evening at the Model Parliament, arranged by the First Church Discussion Circle, and held in the Central Hall, on April 22nd. The speaker was the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., and the Rev. A. L. Agnew, while for the most part of the evening acting as general manager, and showing the 'Members of Parliament' when and where to get tea, also occupied the chair when the House went into committee.

The whole evening was arranged on the lines of a proper session at Westminster, from the entrance of the Speaker and the ceremony involving the Mace, to his final exit at the close of the Parliamentary proceedings of the evening. The Government consisted of members of the Discussion Circle, and it was opposed (strongly) by an array of York Street's formidable orators.

Question Time came first and was dealt with correctly. Then the House went into committee, during which time the speaker was absent from the House. On the return of the Speaker, Mr. J. Robinson, as Minister of Health, introduced a Bill 'to constitute and determine the functions of a National Housing and Planning Board.' He was followed by the Leader of the Opposition who voiced the opinion of his party on the Bill. For some time members on each side of the House followed each other alternately each contributing to the defence of, or the attack on the Bill.

On a division which followed the Bill was defeated, the voting being 42 in favour, 63 in opposition.

A motion on the adournment was then moved by a member of the Opposition: "That the Minister of Foreign Affairs outline the policy of H.M. Government in the Mediterranean" and after some discussion the proceedings closed and Rev. R. W. Wilde, after leaving the House as the Speaker, returned to the room as Minister of First Church to welcome the York Street friends and thank Mr. J. Radcliffe for the amount of effort he had put into the organisation of the Parliament.

Dr. Agnew said that York St. was happy to visit First Church, and also thanked Mr. Radcliffe and the Church officer. His hope that we should hold such evenings often was greeted with applause, and as a gesture of appreciation presented Mr. Radcliffe with the Mace (an old brass gas-bracket!).

Mr. Radcliffe replied and moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Agnew which was passed with acclamation. The proceedings then closed finally with the National Anthem.

Half-yearly subscriptions nod due should be sent to the Manager, Rev. A. Davison, Dromore.

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ESTIMATES FREE.

1 BOWNESS ST. & McCANDLESS ST., BELFAST.

REPORTS.

First Church, Belfast.—The Minister of Supply has appointed Sir Walter Layton to be Director-General of Programmes in the Ministry of Supply and to be a member of the Supply Council. Sir Walter Layton was a member of the Munitions Council in the Ministry of Munitions during the last war. His brother, Mr. Wilfred Layton, for several years was organist at the First Church.

Killinchy.—The Choir and Dramatic Society of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, Killinchy, held a Party on Thursday evening, 16th May, in the School-room, when a presentation was made to Mr. James Stewart, and a hearty welcome extended to his bride, after their return from a honeymoon, touring in the South of Ireland. The Party commenced with games, afterwards tea was served. In an interval Rev. A. M. Bell, B.A., as chairman, in a short speech, welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Stewart and finished by wishing them happiness, prosperity and a long life; he then called upon Mr. J. N. Williams to make the presentation. Mr. J. N. Williams, in a short speech, expressed the hope that Mr. Stewart would still remain a member of both Choir and Dramatic Society, and in the name of both, he then presented a beautiful water-colour picture of the Mourne District to Mr. Stewart. Mr. H. A. Kelly also spoke conveying good wishes. Mr. Stewart suitably replied. A programme followed consisting of recitation, songs, mandolin, and accordion solos, followed by community singing. The Party finished with the hearty singing of "Auld Lang Syne" followed by the French and British National Anthems. Miss J. Russell presided at the piano.

Ballycarry.—Sunday, June the 2nd, a beautiful day of warmth and sunshine was the occasion of our "Children's Day" service. The Church was well filled. The Girl Guides and Cubs of the district, in their attractive uniforms and with banners flying marched in procession into the ancient building. There were special hymns sung by the children and the congregation assembled. The success of this portion of the service was largely due to the organist, Mr. W. P. Campbell, who had given much time in the training of the children. The Rev. John Begg of Larne delivered a most interesting and useful sermon, which was much appreciated by the grown-ups as well as the young.

Our annual Sunday School and choir excursion to Ballygally on the coast, took place on Saturday, June 15th.

All Souls', Belfast.—I have reached another milestone in my life, you in the life of the Church. This milestone also comes at the parting of the way. We have walked together for nearly four years, the path has never been an easy path, obstacle after obstacle we have had to meet and by very great effort we succeeded in overcoming them. Sometimes, as in war, we have to give ground so that we can rest and regain strength. I beg of you to look upon the next phase in the life of the church, in that light. You are not defeated, you have just fallen back to a safer position.

Now comes the time to say good-bye, I could not with truth say that my stay among you has been one of complete happiness, it has, on the whole been one of intense worry and anxiety, yet I have no regrets, and I leave you with feelings of great affection for you all. —W. HOWARD PAYNE.

Crumlin, Co. Antrim.—A Floral Service was held on Sunday, June 9, at 3-30. The flowers were indeed beautiful and tastefully displayed. The singing of our visitors, Miss M. Douther and Mrs. Moore, A.L..C.M., added beauty of tone to beauty of colour. In addition to his sermon the Right Rev. J. Glynne Davies gave a most interesting address to the children. It was unfortunate that attendance was not up to standard, but the whole service was much appreciated by everyone who had the enterprise to be present.

Downpatrick.—Rev. E. Savell Hicks, of Dublin, occupied the pulpit of Downpatrick Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church on Sunday, June 9th. He read

the opening verses of Psalm ciii. Speaking of the great healing processes of God at work through the ages behind all the turmoil and periodical upheavals of civilisation, he likened them to the healing processes that went on in the body and in the mind after sorrow and trouble had taken their toll of our lives. The earth had scars, mighty and terrible scars, where earthquake, glacier, and volcano had torn and rent the rocks. Below were valleys, where rivers ran and lakes lay like mirrors to reflect the hills and sky. Healed after their first grim violence, and clad with trees and grass and flowers, these very scars made up the beauty of a landscape.

Miss Randewich, of Belfast, sang "My Hope" and "Bless this House." Miss M. Henry, L.L.C.M., was at the organ assisted by an augmented choir.

The collectors were Lord Chief Justice Andrews, Messrs. H. Brown, J.P., F. Jennings, J.P., M. Matthews, J. A. Nesbitt, R. Nesbitt, H. Shaw, T. G. Stewart, R. Stitt, and J. H. Wightman.

First Church, Belfast.—The Church Anniversary was celebrated on June 16th. Up till the last moment it had been hoped that the Rev. H. J. Rossington, M.A., B.D., of Birmingham, a former minister, would be taking the services. But on the Saturday he intimated that he had been unable to obtain the necessary travel permit, and, in his absence, the Rev. R. W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., took the services. Good congregations were experienced, and special music was provided by the Church choir. Mr. Wilde spoke in the morning on "What this Church stands for," and in the evening on "The Passing and the Permanent in Religion." It was a great disappointment to all that Mr. Rossington was unable to take these services, for he was greatly endeared to the congregation here and was widely known and respected in the town during his long ministry of over 20 years.

The National "Day of Prayer" was observed on Sunday, May 26th, when very large congregations assembled, and when special prayers were offered under the head of Thanksgiving, Penitence, and Intercession. At the morning service the choir rendered the anthem "Hymn of Peace" (Calcott), while the minister spoke on "Christian Prayer in War Time." At the evening service the anthem was "Peace I leave with you" (Barnby), and the subject of the sermon, "God Still Reigns."

26 members travelled to Larne for the Sunday School Conference on June 1st, and greatly enjoyed the brilliant weather, the generous hospitality extended by the Larne friends, and the opportunity of renewing many happy acquaintances.

The Women's League continues its weekly work meetings, where comforts are made up for men in the Forces. On a recent occasion the members met, by invitation of Mrs. Wilde, at the Manse, and on the following occasion at Fitzroy Avenue, by invitation of Mrs. W. Newman.

The Junior League has arranged a number of Wednesday evening rambles, which have been greatly enjoyed by the members. One or two Saturday rambles have also taken place.

At a result of their production of "Recipe for Murder," the Rosemary Dramatic Society have been able to hand over to the Senior and Junior Women's Leagues a sum of £12, in equal proportions, for their respective Comforts Funds.

The Discussion Circle has organised a ramble to Knockagh, and hopes to fix up further rambles during the summer months.

In view of the international situation, both the Choir and the Sunday School excursions have been postponed. They were to have taken place during the month of June.

Several men attached to the Church were among the troops evacuated from Dunkirk. It is with profound thankfulness that we record that all have safely reached England. We extend to them, and to all our men-folk in the Forces, our affectionate greetings. They are ever in our thoughts, and never a service of worship passes but they are remembered in our prayers. All of us long and pray for happier days, when they will return to us to renew the happy fellowship of times past.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor, "The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian."

Sir, — "PFINGSTEN" is not Anglo-Saxon; it is a German derivative of the Greek PENTECOSTE. "Whit Sunday" is derived, not from PFINGSTEN, but from the Middle English "HWITE SUNNEDEI," "White Sunday," from the white robes worn by those about to be baptised, baptisms being most numerous on that day. The Old English is HWIT SUNNAN DAEG.

Yours, etc.,
FELIX HOLT.

We are quite well aware of the derivation "White Sunday" as derived from the white robes worn by candidates for baptism; and were so taught in childhood's days; but, we have that theory stated as only a conjecture. (National Encyclopedia.). This correspondence is now closed. (Ed.).

"FOUNDERS OF COMBER CHURCH"

Dear Sir,—In the June issue of N.S.P. you publish two interesting letters regarding founders of the Comber Church. On looking through my records in the hope that I could find definite mention of same, I could only find one, that in connection with a dinner given to members of the Remonstrant Synod, July 28, 1840, on the occasion of their meeting in Comber. James Andrews presided. Rev. W. Porter in proposing the health of Mr. John Miller, said:—"Mr. Chairman, you have done a great deal, your family have done a great deal, but you have been zealously assisted by an early friend of mine, Mr. John Miller. . . . It is far from my intention to institute any invidious comparison, but you will all allow, that he has been at least a worthy coadiutor." ("Northern Whig," Aug. 1st, 1840).

Yours truly,
H. J. F. ORR.

147 King's Rd., Belfast.
27th May, 1940.

COMBER CHURCH FOUNDATION.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Referring to Miss Andrews' letter on the above subject which appeared in the June number, I beg to state that on 16th May, Miss Andrews sent in a note withdrawing her statement that John Andrews—and not James Andrews, was co-founder of our Church with John Miller. After consultation with a relative who is writing up the family history she finds that James Andrews was the co-founder and the donor of the site on which our Church is situated. In the interests of correct history, I trust you will find space for this brief reply.

Yours faithfully,
J. G. DAVIES.

COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS.

Dear Editor,—Thank you for publishing each month the Fellowship letter. You are reaping better than you know because not only are you getting the magazine introduced into fresh homes and to new readers, but you are helping to foster a Fellowship spirit amongst those who are interested in the welfare of our fighting forces. Now that the safety of these islands depends on the bravery and endurance of our British men we cannot show our gratitude too quickly. We are glad to know that many of the Fellowship men returned safely from the evacuation of Dunkirk. I sent 24 parcels of things likely to be useful to the men in France at the beginning of last month. Ten parcels have been returned to me by the P.O. I am afraid the others have been lost. The men who returned had lost nearly all their belongings so that means socks and pull-overs are needed quickly. Razor blades and holders are always needed, perhaps some men members could satisfy this need and if there be anyone who could help me in the matter of khaki handkerchiefs I should be glad. Many of this month's subscribers have given before — could the burden not be more equally shared? Members of Larne choir collected the splendid sum of £8 4s 6d. Miss Gardiner, 2/6; Mrs. R. Ferguson (Kia-Ora) 2/6; Lieut. J. Barron, R.N. (Australia), 2/6; Mrs. Lockett, 5/-; Miss McKee, 10/-; Misses Montgomery (All Souls), 10/-; Mrs. W. McRobert, £1; Mrs. Cooke (Carson St., Larne), 2/6; Miss Caroline Bell (Banbridge), 5/-; Miss Frazer, 5/-; Miss Emily McCaw, 5/-;

Mrs. Newman, 2/6; Mrs. Wilson, 2/6; Miss Jean Armstrong for "Our Boys," 5/-. Parcels were received from Mrs. Gardiner, Mrs. James Frame (Ballygowan), Mrs. Frank Robinson, All Souls' Church, and Mrs. Pinkerton (Ballymoney).

Scotland R.A.F.—"My sincere thanks and appreciation for your very useful parcel. It is very thoughtful of you people at home—to receive such gifts makes one understand that although we are from home we are not forgotten. The R.A.F. are putting up an excellent show but before this terrible conflict is over even more will be expected of them. I will always be glad to hear from you, for a letter from home is a 'red-letter day' to one who is miles from it."

Army.—"Thank you. I shall always remember the kindness of the League of Unitarians. I do hope the people of N. Ireland are not depressed—victory will be ours."

H.M.S.—"Many thanks for parcel of warm clothing received in good wishes. I passed on the extra scarf, mittens and Balaclava on to a chum who is on a searchlight—he wishes to thank you."

Army.—"Many thanks for the cigarettes which I received all right. I am very grateful for them as people very seldom think of the A.A. who are on action stations and have none of the free issue of cigarettes, nor duty free and sometimes at the end of the week they are very precious."

R.A.F. — "My heartiest thanks—especially these times when things are so hard to get. Convey to you and all who subscribe to the fund my great appreciation of their thought."

I would like to thank also all the knitters who send in such beautiful work for the men.

Yours sincerely,
EDITH DAVIES,
Hon. Fellowship Sec.

If Invasion Comes—"It is the duty of everyone to keep his head cool and mouth shut, to stay put and sit tight."
—General Sir Hugh Elles.

Will our friends who see to the sale of this Magazine, kindly endeavour to get new subscribers.

Women's League, Ulster District.—The quarterly meeting of the Ulster District was held at Comber on Saturday, June 15th. The service was conducted by Mrs. H. Hall, of Downpatrick, who preached a very helpful sermon on "Bearing each others burdens." The meeting in the School-room was addressed by Mrs. Cecil Andrews, of Comber, the newly elected President of the Ulster District, who appealed to all branches to support the Comforts Fund for men and boys of the Unitarian Churches in Northern Ireland, who are serving with the fighting services. Mrs. Andrews also mentioned the letter from Mrs. Fitzgerald, Boston, Massachusettes, asking for information regarding the work of our League in Ireland, and also making a request for photographs of our Irish Churches.

Mrs. G. Davies, Fellowship secretary, reported that she is now writing letters and sending parcels to over seventy men and boys and asked for greater efforts to be made in the form of subscriptions, knitted garments, razor blades, toilet soap, etc., which the soldiers often have difficulty in obtaining.

Mrs. J. Andrews invited members to view her gardens and this gave pleasure to a large number.

Tea was provided by members of the Comber branch.

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